



*Timothy K. Cameron*  
**SHERIFF**

# Office of the Sheriff

## St. Mary's County, Maryland

Headquarters  
23150 Leonard Hall Drive  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
301-475-4200 Ext. 1900  
301-475-4047 Fax

Detention Center  
41880 Baldrige Street – P.O. Box 960  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
301-475-4200 Ext. 3200  
301-475-4095 Fax



**An Internationally  
Accredited Agency**

February 16, 2017

TO: Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron

SUBJECT: Analysis of Officer Use of Force for 2016

The following is an analysis for the use of force by deputy sheriffs of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office during the periods of January 1 through December 31, 2016. Data for the analysis was derived from the collection of the Use of Force reports completed by law enforcement officers and reviewed by the officer's chain of command. Once the reports are reviewed and approved, they are forwarded to the Office of Professional Responsibilities and entered into the Early Warning System.

Sheriff's Office policy states, in part, all instances of the use of firearms, with the exception of dispatching an animal, FN-303, TASER discharges, chemical agents, pressure point control tactics, impact weapons, physical force other than routine handcuffing, a Use of Force Report a Blue Team Use of Force entry will be completed. This includes directing any firearm or TASER at a person. In addition supervisors are now required to complete a supervisory review of all instances of use of force when able to do so.

In 2016, the Sheriff's Office handled 66,780 calls for service as compared to 76,030 for the year 2015. There were 158 instances of use of force. This equates to force being utilized once in every 422 calls for service.

Refer to the attached IA Pro Use of Force report for the statistical data.

### Analysis

In calendar year 2016, the Agency reported 158 Use of Force incidents, in comparison to 2015, wherein 220 incidents reported. The decrease in use of force incidents can be explained two-fold, the implementation of deputies utilizing better communication skills such as "De-escalation Methods" as well as other communication skills.

The most significant reason the number of force incidents dropped so dramatically was the fact there were 9,296 fewer calls for service in 2016. In 2015 there were a total of 76,030 calls for service. In 2016 there were 66,734 total calls for service. This equates to a 12% reduction in

Timothy K. Cameron, Sheriff- February 16, 2017

SUBJECT: Analysis of Officer Use of Force for 2016

total calls for service and this reduction combined with the aforementioned communication methods have resulted in the decrease of Use of Force.

Refer to the attached IAPro report of Use of Force for a breakdown on the types of force utilized by sworn personnel.

**Recommendation**

From the review of the use of force reports from 2016, and in comparison to previous year's statistical data, all use of force incidents were within the scope of agency policy and procedure. There were no identifiable trends that would indicate excessive or brutal force being utilized by agency personnel. In 2016 there was one complaint of excessive force. The complaint was thoroughly investigated and determined the involved officer was exonerated as the level of force was appropriate. I recommend supervision continue to monitor their personnel and continue to complete supervisory reviews.

Hopefully the decline in the use of force will continue as a trend in the years to come.


It is apparent based upon the data the sworn personnel within the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office are adhering to their training and are adhering to the policies of the office. It is evident supervision is holding their personnel to task thus reducing agency liability. The efforts of all the Sheriff's Office personnel should be commended.



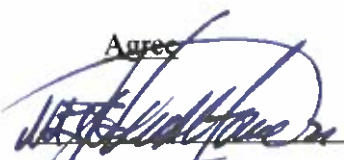
Michael H. Gardiner  
Lieutenant

Office of Professional Responsibilities

Agree

 ( ) Yes ( ) No, see indorsement.

Major:

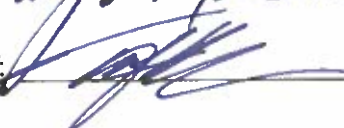


Date

2/17/17

( ) Yes ( ) No, see indorsement.

Sheriff:



Date

2/17/17

**Profile of Use of force Incidents Received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016**

Division: 'CID'

Total number of Use of force incidents: 2

Total number of officers involved: 5

**Type of force tally:**

Type of force	Effective		Not effective		Total #
	#	%	#	%	
Handgun Pointed Only	5	100%	0	0%	5

**Citizen resistance tally:**

Reason	Count	Percent of total
No Resistance	1	33%
Passive	2	67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	

**Citizen condition tally:**

Condition or injury	Count	Percent of total
No injuries noted or visible	3	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	

**Citizen arrested in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	1	50%
Yes	1	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	

**Tally of charges against involved citizens::**

Charge	Count	Percent of total
Other	3	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	

**Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	2	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	

**Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	2	100%
Total	2	

**Officer injuries tally:**

Condition	Count	Percent of total
No injuries noted or visible	5	100%
Total	5	

**Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	2	100%
Total	2	

**Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	2	100%
Total	2	

**Reason for use-of-force:**

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Effect an arrest	1	50%
Protect Self	1	50%
Total	2	

**Type of service being rendered at time of use-of-force:**

Service type	Count	Percent of total
Felony Traffic Stop	1	50%
Robbery suspect	1	50%
Total	2	

--End of Section--

Report date range criteria: Use of force incidents received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016

Profile of Use of force Incidents Received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016

Division: 'Patrol'

Total number of Use of force incidents: 120

Total number of officers involved: 173

## Type of force tally:

Type of force	Effective		Not effective		Total #
	#	%	#	%	
Arm Bar	11	92%	1	8%	12
Arm bar take down	11	92%	1	8%	12
Arm Control	6	100%	0	0%	6
Brachial Stun	1	50%	1	50%	2
Carry	1	100%	0	0%	1
Common Peroneal strike	3	100%	0	0%	3
Escort hold	5	100%	0	0%	5
Forearm strike	1	100%	0	0%	1
Hand push	0	0%	1	100%	1
Hand restrain	2	100%	0	0%	2
Hand Strike	1	100%	0	0%	1
Handgun	2	100%	0	0%	2
Handgun Pointed Only	30	91%	3	9%	33
Head Control	4	100%	0	0%	4
Knee Strike	3	50%	3	50%	6
Leg Sweep	1	100%	0	0%	1
Other	4	67%	2	33%	6
Pressure Point	9	90%	1	10%	10
Punch	1	50%	1	50%	2
Radial strikes	1	100%	0	0%	1
Restraint/Shoulders	1	100%	0	0%	1
Rifle Pointed Only	6	100%	0	0%	6
Secured Legs	1	50%	1	50%	2
Secured wrist	1	100%	0	0%	1
Take Down	36	100%	0	0%	36
Taser	14	64%	8	36%	22
Wrist Lock	6	86%	1	14%	7

## Citizen resistance tally:

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Active	80	62%
Active Armed	4	3%
No Resistance	25	19%
Passive	14	11%
Passive armed	6	5%
Total	129	

## Citizen condition tally:

Condition or injury	Count	Percent of total
Complaint of Injury	15	11%
EMS treatment	1	1%
Hospitalized	15	11%
No Injuries	30	21%

No injuries noted or visible	37	26%
Refused Treatment	2	1%
Treatment Offered	16	11%
UOF-Citizen Injury	1	1%
Visible Injury	25	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	

**Citizen arrested in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	51	43%
Yes	69	58%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Tally of charges against involved citizens::**

Charge	Count	Percent of total
Alcohol/DWI	3	5%
Assault	14	23%
Assault Police	7	12%
Disorderly	5	8%
Domestic Related	4	7%
Drugs	1	2%
Fleeing and Eluding	1	2%
Other	14	23%
Resisting	7	12%
Warrants	4	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	

**Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	104	87%
Yes	16	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	66	55%

Yes	54	45%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Officer injuries tally:**

Condition	Count	Percent of total
Employee Injured	6	5%
Employee Not injured	80	63%
Medical Treatment/Hospital	1	1%
No injuries noted or visible	40	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	

**Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	115	96%
Yes	5	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	118	98%
Yes	2	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Reason for use-of-force:**

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Animal	1	1%
Disorderly	3	3%
Effect an arrest	39	33%
Emergency Petition	17	14%
Protect Citizen	8	7%
Protect Other Employee	8	7%
Protect Self	44	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

**Type of service being rendered at time of use-of-force:**

Service type	Count	Percent of total
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Armed Robbery	4	3%
Armed Subject	1	1%
Armed Suspect	2	2%
Assault	11	9%
Assault Police	7	6%
Assist other Agency	4	3%
Burglary	3	3%
Disorderly	7	6%
Disturbance	3	3%
Domestic Assault	5	4%
Domestic Related	5	4%
DUI	2	2%
Emergency Petition	27	23%
Felony Traffic Stop	8	7%
Fleeing & Eluding	3	3%
Hit and Run Accident	3	3%
Man with Gun	1	1%
Mental subject	1	1%
Overdose	2	2%
Protective Order	1	1%
Subject w/knife	1	1%
Suicidal Subject	1	1%
Theft	3	3%
Traffic Stop	4	3%
Vehicle Pursuit	2	2%
Viol.Protective Order	3	3%
Wanted Suspect	6	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	

--End of Section--

Report date range criteria: Use of force incidents received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016

**Profile of Use of force Incidents Received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016**



Division: 'SOD'

Total number of Use of force incidents: 33

Total number of officers involved: 49

## Type of force tally:

Type of force	Effective		Not effective		Total #
	#	%	#	%	
Arm Bar	4	100%	0	0%	4
Arm bar take down	1	50%	1	50%	2
Arm Control	4	100%	0	0%	4
Escort hold	1	100%	0	0%	1
Hand restrain	3	100%	0	0%	3
Handgun Pointed Only	8	100%	0	0%	8
K-9 Deployment	0	0%	1	100%	1
Knee Strike	2	100%	0	0%	2
Leg Sweep	1	100%	0	0%	1
OC Spray	1	100%	0	0%	1
Other	2	100%	0	0%	2
Pressure Point	2	100%	0	0%	2
Rifle Pointed Only	0	0%	1	100%	1
Secured Legs	2	100%	0	0%	2
Shoulder Pin	3	100%	0	0%	3
Take Down	12	100%	0	0%	12
Taser	6	100%	0	0%	6
Wrist Lock	4	100%	0	0%	4

## Citizen resistance tally:

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Active	23	55%
Active Armed	1	2%
No Resistance	10	24%
Passive	6	14%
Passive armed	2	5%
Total	42	

## Citizen condition tally:

Condition or injury	Count	Percent of total
Complaint of Injury	9	18%
Hospitalized	7	14%
No Injuries	6	12%
No injuries noted or visible	14	29%
Refused Treatment	1	2%
Treatment Offered	6	12%
UOF-Citizen Injury	1	2%

Visible Injury	5	10%
Total	49	

## Citizen arrested in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	12	36%
Yes	21	64%
Total	33	

## Tally of charges against involved citizens::

Charge	Count	Percent of total
Alcohol/DWI	1	6%
Assault	3	18%
Assault Police	1	6%
Disorderly	3	18%
Drugs	1	6%
Other	3	18%
Resisting	3	18%
Warrants	2	12%
Total	17	

## Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	30	91%
Yes	3	9%
Total	33	

## Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	21	64%
Yes	12	36%
Total	33	

## Officer injuries tally:

Condition	Count	Percent of total
Employee Injured	7	18%

Employee Not injured	23	58%
No injuries noted or visible	10	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	

**Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	30	91%
Yes	3	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	

**Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):**

	Count	Percent of total
No	32	97%
Yes	1	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	

**Reason for use-of-force:**

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Disorderly	3	9%
Effect an arrest	17	52%
Emergency Petition	3	9%
Protect Citizen	1	3%
Protect Self	9	27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	

**Type of service being rendered at time of use-of-force:**

Service type	Count	Percent of total
Assault Police	1	3%
Assist other Agency	1	3%
Burglary	1	3%
Burglary suspect	2	6%
Disorderly	9	27%
Disturbance	3	9%
Domestic Assault	1	3%
Domestic Related	1	3%

Emergency Petition	3	9%
Fleeing & Eluding	2	6%
Suicidal Subject	2	6%
Traffic Stop	1	3%
Trespassing	2	6%
VOP	1	3%
Wanted Suspect	3	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	

--End of Section--

Report date range criteria: Use of force incidents received Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016

4 Organizational Component Combinations were processed

Report name: Use of Force stats - Alaska DPS (5.6)

Report run on: Feb 16, 2017 at 07:55 by LT Michael Gardiner